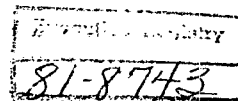


The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505



This is extra copy. Memo Chicago

13 November 1981

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I think you would find useful for weekend reading the attached paper, "Castro Agonistes." I found it a remarkable analysis, drawn from his recent speeches, of Castro's state of mind. It leads up to the conclusion: "Pressures on him now are probably greater than at any time since the early 1960s, and he has made more serious mistakes over the last two years--the visits by Cuban exiles, the repeated promises of a grim future--than in any comparable period. Most ominous in this context are the numerous indications that his brooding pessimism of late reflects an increasingly belligerent and fatalistic mood. Thus, Castro will, in all likelihood, be an even more dangerous adversary than he has been in the past."

I would also suggest you look at the attached summary of my conversation

It is a good survey of where and to what extent the threatened countries of Central America may be able to get help from other Latin American nations.

Finally, there is attached a brief memorandum on escaping the paralysis which impedes steps to limit the Soviet-backed Cuban and Nicaraguan takeover of Central America which also would threaten both the Panama Canal and Mexico.

Yours,

William J. Casey

Attachments

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